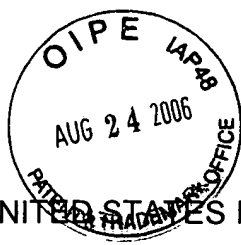


P23916.A06



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Kazutoshi YASUNAGA et al.

Group Art Unit : 2641

Appl. No. : 10/614,834

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

Filed : July 9, 2003

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For : SPEECH CODER AND SPEECH DECODER

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

Prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application on the merits, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the claims as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.